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LEARNING CURVEBALL

PU college lecturers demand cancellation of online training for entrance exams, seek special classes for Science students

PAGE 2

FOR THE RECORD

Authorities drag feet as yet another delay hits process of cataloguing city's biodiversity; plan to push it into next BBMP budget

PAGE 4

Around 8 maternity homes depend on just 1 ambulance as BBMP has taken no action to replace 3 vehicles that are too old, despite being informed about it two months ago

CUT THE SCRAP, THIS IS AN EMERGENCY

Just rumours, all ambulances working fine, claims health officer

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Even as the shock of maternal deaths at government hospitals is yet to subside, in the city, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Health Department has failed to take measures to provide its maternity homes with a basic amenity. The BBMP Health Department has not taken measures to replace 15-year-old ambulances even after the Karnataka Government Insurance Department sent a circular two months ago in this regard.

The result is that around eight maternity homes depend on one ambulance instead of the assigned four ambulances. The Karnataka Government Insurance Department had sent a circular on November 4, 2024, to all the government and the BBMP departments not to use vehicles more than 15 years old as such vehicles are not valid for renewal of insurance policies. The circular stated that those old vehicles are to be considered as scrap as per the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. However, the BBMP Health Department has failed either to renew the insurance policies of these vehicles or replace such ambulances with new ones.

Two ambulances that are more than 15 years old are lying at Halasuru Referral Hospital.

"The authorities have asked us not to use the three ambulances. It has become tough for us to cater to the needs of pregnant women who depend on seven to eight maternity hospitals maintained by the BBMP — Ambulance driver

Women from economically poor families depend on maternity homes maintained by the BBMP Health Department. They depend on ambulances because they are not able to afford private ambulances to reach the maternity hospital during emergencies. Women from areas such

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10 »

Three is a crowd

Bengaluru records 1,49,694 triple riding cases in 2024

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Bengaluru recorded an alarming 1,49,694 cases of triple riding this year. From a road safety perspective, triple riding puts all road users—riders, pedestrians, and other motorists—at risk. In the event of an accident, the severity of injuries is magnified, as most triple riders do not use helmets. Additionally, the overloading of two-wheelers strains the traffic system, contributing to congestion and reducing the overall efficiency of urban transport.

PAGE 5: SEATBELT ALERT

Over the past three years, the cases have been on a consistent rise reaching 10,0000+ cases. In 2022, 16,2617 cases were reported, in 2023, 1,17,738 cases were reported. This year Rs 4,97,6,400 was collected as fine in the 149694 cases.

"Accidents resulting from such violations can overwhelm emergency services, and lead to loss for families affected by injuries or fatalities. Addressing this issue is not merely about reducing a statistic; it is essential for protecting lives and ensuring safer roads for everyone," a senior traffic official said.

In a case of triple riding tragedy, a 19-year-old BBA student Mohammed Nahidur Rahman, lost his life in an accident on BGS flyover on Saturday night. The teen was seated in between the rider and a third pillion rider. The scooter was said to be

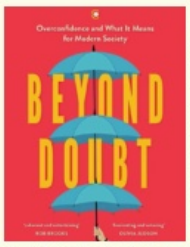
CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Dance all night

Retrace is back for its third instalment at Indiranagar SOCIAL featuring Vedik B2B Default system, Colorforms, Airwave95 B2B Source and more. **Where: Indiranagar Social When: December 28, 8 pm onwards**

02 Book discussion



Discuss science, ideas, and different dimensions of overconfidence, with 'Beyond Doubt' by Vivek Nityananda as he explores the impact of overconfidence on modern society. He will be in conversation with Anupama Bijur. **Where: Library, Bangalore International Centre, Domlur; When: January 4, 6:30 pm**

03 Guava delight

Naturals Ice Cream is delighted to announce the return of its classic Original Guava Ice Cream. This seasonal delight launched on December 20 and will be available for just 45 days. **Where: Available at all Naturals outlets When: Until February 3**

04 Magic time

Renowned magician PC Sorcar (Porush) is set to captivate Bengaluru audiences with his spectacular magic show, Indrajala He will be hosting five shows over two days. **Where: Town Hall, JC Road; When: December 28 (4 pm & 7 pm) and December 29 (12.15 pm, 4 pm & 7 pm)**

05 Drawing session

Outreach event "Gesture Drawing: A Workshop on Drawing Motion with Minimal Strokes" for ages above 16 years in conjunction with the ongoing in-house curated retrospective exhibition 'Namma Mestru: The Artistic Voyage of JMS Mani. **Where: National Gallery of Modern Art, Vasanth Nagar; When: December 28, 11 am to 1 pm**

Prioritise practical learning, stop online training: Lecturers

Citing time constraints, limited access to PU students, lecturers demand cancellation of online training for entrance exams, call for introducing special classes instead

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'Over 1.5 lakh students across the state are expected to face the II PU exams this year'

The Karnataka State Pre-University College Lecturers' Association has demanded the cancellation of the online training provided for entrance exams and called for the introduction of special classes for students of the PU Science stream.

It is said that for the academic year 2024-25, online training for competitive exams is being provided to science students. A total of 120 hours have been allocated annually for the teaching of the syllabus for both I & II year science students. However, due to time constraints caused by regular tests, midterm exams, and pre-examination preparations, completing the syllabus within the allocated time has become difficult. This year, online training for entrance exams is being held from 9 AM to 10:15 AM and 3 PM to 4:15 PM, and subject teachers have been assigned to conduct the sessions. However, not all students in the colleges have been selected for these online classes. As a result, students who were not selected for the online sessions are missing out on subject instruction.

The association has stressed the need to cancel afternoon online classes and conduct special classes to complete the syllabus and provide practical training. The association's president, AH Ningegowda, insisted that training should be postponed during quizzes, pre-examinations, and annual exam periods, and that the training program should be resumed after the completion of annual exams.

Logistical and mental hurdles

The association highlighted that only 24 hours per week are available for teaching science subjects, which makes it impossible to complete the syllabus in its entirety. Additionally, practical training cannot be fully conducted. In rural areas, students are forced to leave home early to attend college, and the online classes in the afternoon until 4:15 PM cause delays in their return home. As a result, parents have written to the principals of respective colleges, requesting that online classes be discontinued.

Call to set up math labs in colleges

The demand for the establishment of dedicated mathematics laboratories at the PU level has gained momentum on National Mathematics Day, celebrated on December 22. Lecturers have stressed the importance of engaging students with mathematics at the early stages of their education to prevent the subject from becoming a barrier at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

Over 1.5 lakh students across the state are expected to face the II PU exams this year. The Karnataka State PU Mathematics Forum is actively working to improve the results by enhancing the quality of mathematics education through the establishment of dedicated labs. States like Kerala and Maharashtra already have mathematics practical labs at the PU level, and the forum has urged the state to follow the same model. The forum also highlighted the improvement in mathematics results in recent years, but more effort is being made to further enhance the outcomes.

> **"Mathematics Forum has prepared 10 sample question papers with solutions to help students in their annual exam preparations** – Lecturer

"To support this, the forum has organised special workshops for district-level mathematics lecturers, training them to better prepare students for exams. With just a few months remaining for the exams, the forum has already prepared 10 sample question papers with solutions to help students in their preparations. They are also working to make mathematics more interesting and less intimidating for students by pushing for the establishment of mathematics labs at the PU level to boost engagement and enthusiasm," a lecturer added.

Timely aid by doctors helps save lives during cardiac emergencies

In December 2024, doctors from Manipal Hospitals intervened in two critical heart emergencies, saving lives with quick actions. On December 6, during a flight from Kolkata to Delhi, a 45-year-old woman collapsed with severe breathing distress and high blood pressure. Dr Smita Moitra, Consultant and In charge of the Emergency Department at Manipal Hospitals, Broadway, administered Lasix, nitroglycerin, and oxygen despite limited resources on board. Her actions stabilised the patient, who was safely transferred for further care after an emergency landing in Ranchi and later recovered. On December 25, at Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport, Dr Garima Aggarwal, Consultant-Nephrologist and Renal Transplant Physician at Manipal Hospitals Varthur Road, performed CPR on a man who collapsed from a heart attack. With the help of an airport medical team, she used an AED to revive

Dr Smita Moitra

Dr Garima

the man, who was stabilised and transported to a hospital.

A release from the hospital stated, "These incidents highlight the importance of timely intervention in cardiac emergencies. Through the "Guardians of the Heart" initiative, Manipal Hospitals is training community members in CPR to ensure help is readily available. The hospital's "Mission 3K—3000 Hearts, One Beat" event set a Guinness World Record for the largest hands-only CPR relay, with 3,319 participants, emphasising the importance of preparedness." — BMB

Beauty products surpass electronic sales in city

Bengaluru is a city that is hailed as the tech hub; however, Bengalureans have spent more on beauty products than electronics. According to the report 'How India Swiggy'd 2024,' Bengaluru's beauty obsession just gave its tech cred a run for its money! The city spent a whopping 40% more on beauty products than on electronics. Bengalureans also spent on both puja essentials and party supplies as the city fiercely vied for the title of party capital alongside Mumbai, ordering 1.8 times more wine and shot glasses, particularly during Deepavali celebrations.

"While Bengaluru added a cosmopolitan flair, it didn't lose touch with its roots—leading the country in puja essentials, with close to a million orders, the highest nationwide. The city also went on a brushing spree this year, snapping up a mind-blowing nearly 3 lakh toothbrushes—talk about a clean sweep! The top four items ordered by the Bengalureans were milk, onion, curd, and tomatoes," read the report.

Amitesh Jha, CEO, Swiggy Instamart, said, "The top purchases from the city include milk, onion, curd, and tomato, with a city user spending as much as Rs 11,70,077 on groceries, electronics, and other items." The report stated that Bengaluru lived up to its reputation as the city of contrasts in 2024 by balancing filter coffee mornings with midnight munchies and bustling streets with seamless convenience. — BMB

'Tis that time of the year, when you can shop your heart out

Shoppers wait for the fag end of the year as that is when the best deals start pouring in. It all begins with the Black Friday sale, during which the best of items can be bought at low prices.

The Friday after Thanksgiving is much anticipated by shoppers as on this day many online and offline retailers roll out massive discounts. It is that time of the year when shopping therapy takes precedence over everything else as people queue up to avail of irresistible deals and heavy discounts. A perfect way to kickstart holiday shopping, Black Friday sales, which often start as early as midnight, are met by frenzied crowds filling their shopping bags with loads of items. There is no dearth of online discounts too with many brands offering the best of discounts.

This year this shopping extravaganza fell on November 29, marking an unofficial start of the holiday shopping season in the United States. This pre-Christmas tradition is getting grander with each passing year, as it goes global, spreading to other countries as well.

Christmas and NYE shopping

From then on comes the Christmas and New Year eve shopping spree. While for Christmas, it is usually gifts that people are after, for New Year's eve, the focus is on party outfits.

This year, price-conscious holiday shoppers are said to have opened their wallets for last-minute online discounts on clothing and stocking stuffers, potentially benefiting retailers that also offered such convenient options as free delivery and curbside pickup.

The popularity of online shopping has surged due to its convenience, similar or lower prices than in-store, the availability of services like "buy online, pick up in-store (BOPIS)" and fast, free deliveries, said Michael Schulman, a retail expert at Running Point Capital Advisors.

"The shortened holiday season this year compared to last year, with a tighter scrunch between Thanksgiving and Christmas, also left less time for in-store retail shopping and probably incentivized more phone and computer browsing and purchases," he said.

While there were deals aplenty, retailers appeared to have been disciplined with promotions.

According to a Mastercard SpendingPulse report, online spending during the holiday shopping period from Nov. 1 to Dec. 24 grew by 6.7% over last year, compared to a 2.9% increase for in-store sales.

This contributed to a total spending increase of 3.8% over 2023, surpassing the previously forecast rise of 3.2% and topping the 3.1% increase during the same period last year. -- Reuters and BMB

Tips to make shopping more fun

- It is best to go with friends who share your taste and idea of fun. In this way you can help each other pick out the right stuff and stop also in time
- Though online shopping is all the rage, we suggest you try brick and mortar during the holiday season as all the fun lies in the look and feel
- Keep a budget in mind before you go out shopping, in that way you can know exactly what and how much you can buy. We suggest you have a written-down list
- Don't be too guilty as this is the time to pamper yourself as many retail outlets have the best sales around this time of the year.

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Biodiversity cataloguing process is back to square one in B'luru

City's efforts to document its biodiversity face setbacks as BBMP and UDD postpone approval for updated People's Biodiversity Register; experts caution delay will hinder conservation

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In May, BMC presented a zone-wise budget plan of Rs 118.9 lakh to update the long-pending PBR

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and the Urban Development Department continue to drag their feet on documenting the city's remnant biodiversity. The process to catalogue Bengaluru's biodiversity has been long overdue and was expected to start anytime after the Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) submitted a zone-wise draft budget more than six months ago. The proposal was then sent to the Urban Development Department for approval. However, UDD has rejected the draft budget to update Bengaluru's People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) and has asked the civic agency to restart the process afresh. According to BBMP, the activity will now be included in BBMP's next budget.

"We are ditching the old PBR. The city's biodiversity will now be catalogued afresh and thus the old budget does not hold. The initial proposal has been rejected by UDD and we are now planning to include it in the next budget," said BLG Swamy, Deputy Conservator of Forest, BBMP.

In May this year, Bengaluru's BMC submitted a zone-wise budget plan of Rs 118.9 lakh for updating the long-pending PBR. The city got its first BMC in 2009 the first PBR - a mandate under the Centre's Biological Biodiversity Act (BDA) 2002, in 2010. The register, a repository of traditional knowledge of local biological resources, has not been updated since then.

However, BBMP recently revived Bengaluru's BMC and the committee submitted a budgetary requirement of Rs 14.85 lakh per zone to document the city's biodiversity. This would have also included the formation of zone-wise BMCs, sensitisation of the public about the study, training of members in identifying and collecting data on biological resources and traditional knowledge, analysis, and validation of data in consultation with a technical support group, preparation of the PBR, and computerisation of information and resources.

The idea behind preparing a PBR is to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of local biological resources while securing equitable sharing of benefits that come from these resources. Experts say this delay will hurt conservation efforts.

> **"Bengaluru is changing rapidly and delay in documenting the city's biodiversity will do harm than good**
>
> – Dr TV Ramachandra, IISc

"Bengaluru is changing rapidly and delay in documenting the city's biodiversity will do more harm than good. To take up any conservation activity, one needs to know the current status. Unless we have this data, any conservation effort will not yield results. However, it is unfortunate that urban administrators lack an understanding of the importance of biodiversity. This unnecessary delay could have been avoided by using old PBR as a reference and going ahead with the plan," said Dr TV Ramachandra, Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science (IISc).

According to Akshay Heblikar, Founder of Eco Watch and a member of Bengaluru's BMC, while a fresh start might prove beneficial, any delay in starting the project will be detrimental."If budget is the problem, the project can start at the zonal level. Starting the documentation will also help us understand the nitty-gritty of the process. This would aid in adjusting the project scope and creating a more realistic draft budget for the project," said Heblikar.

RTOs adopt solar power to lower bills and carbon footprint

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The Regional Transport Offices (RTOs) are set to embrace solar power as a solution to rising electricity costs and environmental concerns. With electricity consumption steadily increasing across RTO offices, the escalating bills have become a financial burden on the state's transport department. To address this, the department has decided to reduce its reliance on conventional electricity by implementing solar power systems in all RTO offices. Karnataka has 66 RTO offices under six transport divisions, most of which operate from government-owned buildings. These offices depend heavily on electricity for daily operations, leading to significant expenses. The adoption of solar power aims to make these offices more environmentally sustainable while significantly reducing electricity costs.

An official said, "As a pilot initiative, solar panels will first be installed at the HSR Layout RTO in Bengaluru. In the initial phase, 20 RTOs will be equipped with solar power systems at an estimated cost of Rs.8 crore. Depending on the success of this phase, the program will be extended to all RTO offices across the state. The solar power units are expected to generate sufficient electricity to meet the daily requirements of the RTO offices, significantly cutting dependence on traditional power sources. This move is expected to ease the financial burden of electricity bills, as each RTO will generate its power on-site. The transport department is also conducting assessments to estimate the potential cost savings once the solar systems are operational."

Additionally, the department has planned to sell any surplus electricity generated back to the grid. Agreements will be signed with electricity distribution companies (Escoms) to facilitate this, creating an additional revenue stream for the RTOs. This initiative is part of the government's larger goal of promoting renewable energy and reducing carbon footprints. "In the first phase, RTO offices in divisions such as Bengaluru (KR Puram, Electronic City, Kasturi Nagar, Jnanabharathi, Yelahanka, Devanahalli), Bengaluru Rural (Nelamangala, Tumakuru, Chintamani), Mysuru (Mysuru East, Mandya), Shivamogga (Mangaluru, Chitradurga, Davanagere), Belagavi (Dharwad West, Vijayapura, Bagalkot), and Kalaburagi (Ballari, Raichur) will adopt solar power systems. By transitioning to solar energy, Karnataka's transport department is not only aiming to reduce operational costs but also setting a benchmark for sustainable practices in government offices. This initiative highlights the potential of renewable energy in addressing financial and environmental challenges," an official added.

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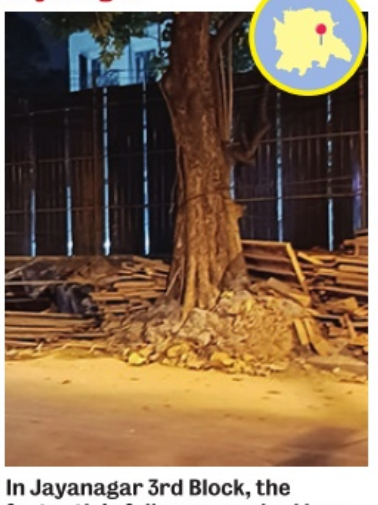
Roof repaired
Tin Factory

After being reported in the columns, the roof of the bus stop at Tin Factory has been repaired.

Unhygienic spot
Lingarajapuram

Beneath the Lingarajapuram flyover near VST Road, garbage constantly piles up as people dump trash, worsened by parked vehicles and an open urinal, creating an unhygienic environment.

Encroached footpath
Jayanagar



In Jayanagar 3rd Block, the footpath is fully encroached by a builder storing materials and debris. This leaves no space for pedestrians.

Safety first: Fasten your seat belts now

Despite awareness campaigns, seat belt compliance remains pressing issue in state with 3 lakh+ cases up to June 2024

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In recent years, the number of cases filed against drivers for not wearing seat belts has seen significant changes. While 2021 recorded 3,96,300 cases, accounting for 20.56% of the total cases during that time, the first half of 2024 (up to June) already recorded 3,35,309 cases, representing 17.39% of the total.

Whereas with 2,82,893 cases, 2022 witnessed a decline in violations, making up 14.67% of the total. However, 2023 saw a sharp rise in violations, with an alarming 9,13,297, constituting 47.38% of the total cases filed. This data highlights a worrying increase in violations in 2023, followed by a still significant number of cases in the first half of 2024, suggesting that seat belt compliance remains a pressing issue in Karnataka.

Elaborating on the matter, Home Minister G Parameshwara stated, "As per Rule 19880: 194(6), all passengers travelling in vehicles must compulsorily wear seat belts. The government has issued an order to this effect, numbered TD 250 C 2019, Bengaluru, dated 21.09.2019. There is no exemption from wearing seat belts."

'There is no exemption from wearing seat belts while driving'

> **"There is no limit to number of fines that can be imposed in a day, & no such proposal is pending before govt. If rules are not adhered to, violators will be fined accordingly** – Home Minister G Parameshwara

Measures underway to create awareness

The minister said that the government is creating awareness through social media platforms. The officials are also conducting training sessions for drivers at traffic training institutes and road safety organisations and at the traffic management centre to educate them on the importance of wearing seat belts while driving. Moreover, Road Safety Week and Month are being observed along with installing road signs to create awareness among the public.

Reasoning behind penalties

Parameshwara further explained, "As per Rule 1988: 194 (22), a fine of Rs 500 is imposed on drivers who drive without wearing seat belts, and 80 per cent of the fine amount is collected. The remaining amount is collected by sending notices to the addresses of the violators under Section 133 of the IMV Act."

He further said that multiple violations committed by a driver on the same day from one place to another are considered separate offenses. There is no limit to the number of fines that can be imposed in a day, and no such proposal is pending before the government. "Imposing multiple fines for a single violation is not natural justice, as each violation is considered separate, and a separate fine is imposed. Traffic discipline is the responsibility of every citizen, and following rules is crucial in preventing road accidents and maintaining discipline among road users," he said, adding that legally, if road users are aware of their responsibilities and do not violate traffic rules, they will not have to pay fines repeatedly.

"Paying fines for violating traffic rules is not the primary objective, but it serves as a deterrent for those who do not follow the law, prompting them to adhere to the rules. This, in turn, plays a crucial role in cautioning other road users," the HM added.

Actor Charith arrested in alleged harassment case

Kannada and Telugu serial actor Charit Balappa was arrested on Tuesday and produced before the court, where he was remanded to judicial custody in connection with a case filed by an actress accusing Balappa of mentally torturing, threatening, and intimidating her.

A senior official stated that following the victim's complaint, a notice was initially served to the accused. However, instead of cooperating, the accused escalated matters by visiting the victim's home, verbally abusing her, and issuing threats. "The FIR was filed, but the sections invoked initially were not severe enough to warrant immediate arrest," the official explained. "After the accused further threatened the victim at her residence, we were compelled to take action."

According to the complaint filed under the Rajarajeshwari Nagar police station, the actress, who has been acting in the entertainment industry since 2017, became familiar with Balappa in November 2023. Over time, he allegedly began exploiting her, professing his love for her, and later resorting to threats when his advances were rebuffed. The complainant alleges that Balappa, a divorcee, frequently visited her residence with his associates, creating disturbances and pressuring her into a physical relationship.

The situation reportedly escalated when Balappa threatened to tarnish her reputation by posting fabricated videos and photos on social media, particularly targeting networks of actors and actresses. He allegedly demanded money from the complainant and threatened her with alleged claims of having powerful connections, including political and police influence, as well as ties to rowdies.

This isn't the first allegation against. Previously, a fellow actress alleged that his persistent unwelcome advances and inappropriate behaviour extending beyond the workplace through stalking and unsolicited communication created a toxic atmosphere. **– Atiya Firdos**

5 ideas for a romantic New Year's Eve

Everyone wants to bring in the new year with celebration and fun! And if you are doing it with your SO, throw in romance in good measure. Celebrating New Year's Eve (NYE) as a couple allows you to get emotional while reminiscing about all the good times even while paving the way for more to come. Here are a few unique ideas to celebrate your NYE this time.

Explore a new part of your city on foot

If you are unable to get away from the city, try and take a trip within! All cities have unexplored neighbourhoods that people are unaware of, and NYE could be the perfect time to explore such a place with your SO. Walk hand in hand, talk of sweet nothings and don't forget the midnight kiss!

Make a time capsule

Yes, it is something that happens in western countries, but that doesn't mean you can't do it! Go out, get some great food, and then come back to make a time capsule with your SO! A time capsule is nothing but a collection of meaningful items from a phase of your life, which you pack in a tin box and bury it so you can recover it later.

Just break away from the routine

Get dressed and go to a party or a club, dance your heart out, just let yourself loose! You have worked hard all year, and treat this as the evening to celebrate all your achievements! Don't worry,

you don't have to think of work until much later, so be 'in the moment' with your SO and let the stress melt away. Brownie points for showing up in coordinated outfits!

Take a boat ride

You will have your privacy, and feel like you are on a different planet once you take off from the shore. Plan your evening with dinner, some romantic music and a bottle of good wine. Shut out everything else, just enjoy the mood and the moonlight. Don't forget to carry a blanket if you want to cuddle.

Get nostalgic & plan a trail

You could revisit all the memories that got you both together. You can plan a memory trail together and revisit the spots that are important to you. You can also plan a scavenger hunt, mapping out the important places with a series of clues for your partner. **–Femina**

Limited training hampers thermal drone use for elephants

Tough terrain and high costs for external drone services are hindering forest operations in Karnataka; resource gaps are limiting their potential despite some notable success

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The recent elephant management operations in Karnataka have highlighted several limitations in the advanced thermal drones being deployed. These drones, which are supposed to detect elephant presence, face challenges in accurately identifying the animals in dense bamboo groves or under large trees. Additionally, using these drones during the monsoon season presents operational difficulties for the forest staff.

Limited training for drone operations

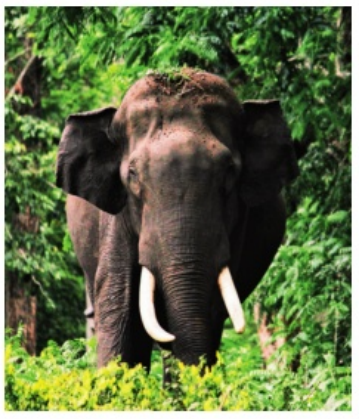
Sources said that in Bengaluru's forest division, which oversees multiple districts, only one staff member has been trained to operate these thermal drones. An individual received training in Pune in December, learning how to deploy drones and identify elephant locations. However, the lack of adequately trained personnel has made simultaneous operations in different areas nearly impossible.

High costs for external drone services

Due to the shortage of trained staff, the forest department had to rely on private drone operators during critical operations, which comes at a significant cost. Private operators charge Rs.35,000 per day, adding a financial burden to the department. Elephant activity has increased in regions like Ramanagara district, Bannerghatta, and the Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary. A source said that while thermal drones are helpful in identifying elephant herds, the responsibility of driving them back to their natural habitat rests entirely on the forest department personnel. For example, in Ramanagara's Handigundi forest area, herds must be relocated to the Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary through narrow routes like Narikallu Hill, Thenginakallu Forest, and Kabalu Reserve. These terrains make it difficult to utilise drones effectively.

Limited deployment of thermal drones

Currently, the department is awaiting approval for the dedicated allocation of thermal drones to each district. At present, the Bannerghatta Wildlife Division's drone is being shared across different districts. According to a senior forest official, "We are yet to receive separate thermal drones for the district. For now, we rely on the ones allocated for Bannerghatta Forest."



Bannerghatta's success vs Ramanagara challenges

While the use of thermal drones in Bannerghatta has been relatively effective, helping to drive elephants back into the forest when they stray, the situation in Ramanagara is more complex. In districts like Ramanagara, relocating elephants often involves navigating through tough terrains, making it challenging to leverage the full potential of these drones. The Bengaluru forest division covers areas including Bannerghatta, Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary, Ramanagara, Chikkaballapura, Kolar, Bengaluru Urban, and Bengaluru Rural. Despite this vast area, only one person is equipped to operate thermal drones, underscoring the urgent need for more trained personnel and resources. A wildlife activist said, "The forest department's use of advanced technology in wildlife management is a step forward, but gaps in training, resource allocation, and operational strategy highlight the challenges in ensuring the technology's effectiveness across Karnataka's diverse forest landscapes."

> **"Gaps in training, resource allocation, and operational strategy highlight challenges in ensuring technology's effectiveness across landscapes** – Activist

Triple riding cases on rise over the years

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

speeding near Jamia Masjid at 8.30 pm, when it rammed an autorickshaw, causing all three to fall. Rahman sustained fatal head injuries and died in the hospital. None of the riders were wearing helmets. City Market traffic police charged the rider with rash driving and negligence under BNS Sections 281 and 106.

"Youngsters engage in triple riding simply because they want to. They take their safety lightly, opting for a joyride without considering the risks. This issue is widespread across the city. During special drives, violators spot us from a distance, take a U-turn, and escape, making enforcement challenging," said the official.

Kuldeep Kumar Jain, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic East) said, AI has made capturing violations more efficient. "With AI technology, we can automatically capture violations, reducing the need for physical enforcement. While evasion increases the risk during such maneuvers, violations caught on camera result in direct challans sent to vehicle owners," he said.

A few months ago, a puppy was crushed by a bike carrying three riders in Varthur. A widely shared video shows the trio talking while riding before running over the puppy. The video, shared on social media and tagged to Bengaluru City Police, prompted authorities to instruct Varthur Police to investigate. A search for the culprits is underway. The riders violated traffic laws by triple riding without helmets. Despite stopping nearby, they offered no help.

A X user KishoreB tagging traffic officials had posted that he had noticed around eight bikers without helmets, a few without/ camouflaged registration number plates, triple riding, returning from a city ride.

This trend of reckless behavior, such as triple riding and ignoring traffic laws, exacerbates traffic congestion and road safety concerns. "To avoid such situations, traffic officials are educating motorists on the importance of wearing helmets and also conducting awareness campaigns in schools and colleges. They are also conducting strict special drives to reduce traffic violations," said Jain.

Women arrested for thefts

The Gauribidanur Town Police in Chikkaballapur district arrested three women pickpockets for stealing jewellery and cash from women in crowded areas, especially at the KSRTC bus stand. Following complaints on November 16 and December 6, involving the theft of a 50-gram gold chain and Rs.1 lakh in cash, the police set up a special team to investigate.

Using CCTV footage and other evidence, the accused were identified and apprehended on Monday while attempting another theft at the bus stand. The arrested women, identified as Rekha Bai (58), Roja (27), and Kareena (25), are residents of Gulbarga and confessed to being habitual offenders targeting crowded areas.

The police recovered stolen items, including gold chains and cash, during the operation. The investigation also revealed that the accused were involved in similar thefts in Tumkur, Holenarasipura, Halasuru, and Ramanagara. Their modus operandi included targeting women during peak hours, encircling them, and discreetly stealing valuables. The police have urged the public, especially women, to remain vigilant in crowded areas and avoid displaying valuables prominently to deter thefts. **— BMB**

Start-ups push boundaries in space

The fourth stage of the PSLV rocket, which will remain in orbit for some time after launching two satellites on Monday, will give an opportunity to start-ups and institutes to carry out experiments in outer space, with India's space regulator emerging as a common link in turning these projects to reality.

A record 24 experiments, 14 by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) laboratories and 10 by non-government entities (NGEs) will be carried out onboard the PSLV Orbital Experiment Module (POEM),

including a demonstration of seed germination in outer space, a robotic arm to catch the tethered debris there and the testing of green propulsion systems. A common link among the payloads of start-ups and private universities is the technical centre at the Ahmedabad-based headquarters of the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe), India's regulator and promoter for the space sector.

"We give them all the support, including the test facilities as well as help from mentors to address any problems," Rajeev Jyoti, Director of IN-SPACe, said. He said IN-SPACe also enables access to facilities at ISRO work centres for any specific test, such as the outgassing measurement test, the EMI/EMC test and the mechanical shock test, in accordance with the model philosophy and test specification specified by the PSLV.

— BMB

Bengalureans eye KR Pet and Shravanabelagola for peaceful living and smart investments

Bengalureans are increasingly looking beyond the city's bustling confines, seeking tranquil retreats and smart investment options. Areas like KR Pet and Shravanabelagola are emerging as prime destinations, offering a blend of serene living and growth potential. These locations, known for their lush landscapes and cultural heritage, provide a peaceful alternative to the city's chaos. Additionally, improved connectivity and infrastructure are making these regions attractive for long-term investments. Many are drawn to the affordability and promise of appreciation, with properties serving as both weekend getaways and future assets. The trend reflects a shift towards prioritising quality of life alongside financial growth.

Rise of weekend farmers

"One of the most significant factors fueling this trend is the concept of weekend farming. Many Bengalureans, particularly professionals and business owners, are looking to escape the hustle and bustle of the city and enjoy a more peaceful environment. Investing in agricultural lands offers them the opportunity to become "weekend farmers", individuals who cultivate land and grow crops during their time off. Weekend farming is often seen as a therapeutic and fulfilling activity, allowing people to reconnect with nature and enjoy the fruits of their labour. This movement is gaining popularity as Bengalureans embrace healthier, more sustainable lifestyles. Many have turned to organic farming, growing fruits, vegetables, and even spices like turmeric and pepper. Not only does this allow them to consume fresh, organic produce, but it also provides a potential source of income from the sale of surplus crops. Moreover, weekend farming allows individuals to explore the joy of hands-on farming without having to give up their urban careers or move permanently to rural areas. With Bengaluru's fast-paced and high-stress environment, the opportunity to unwind in a rural setting is an appealing aspect of owning farmland," said T Shiva Kumar, an investor.

Citizens have started embracing sustainable lifestyles

Sandalwood farming as lucrative investment

Fazal Ahmed, a businessman, said, "Known for its high value, sandalwood is often referred to as "liquid gold" due to the substantial returns it can generate. In Karnataka, the cultivation of sandalwood is highly regulated, and until recently, the government held a monopoly over its trade. However, with relaxed regulations and increasing support for private sandalwood cultivation, many Bengalureans are now exploring this investment option. Sandalwood farming is considered a long-term investment, as it takes around 15-20 years for the trees to mature. However, the potential financial rewards are significant, given the global demand for sandalwood oil and wood. From perfumery and cosmetics to religious rituals, sandalwood products are sought after both in India and abroad. This high demand has made sandalwood farming an attractive prospect for investors. For Bengalureans, sandalwood farming offers financial investment and the satisfaction of contributing to the preservation of this prized tree, which has cultural and religious significance in India."

-Prakash VL

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Global, domestic capital boost Indian real estate

India's real estate sector is on the cusp of a new growth phase, with projected investments of USD 5.5 billion in 2025. This optimism is driven by resilient demand, supportive government policies, and attractive valuations that are drawing domestic and international investors. While challenges such as global economic uncertainties remain, the sector's adaptability and potential for sustainable returns underscore its appeal. With converging domestic and global capital flows, Indian real estate is poised to solidify its position as a preferred destination for private equity (PE) investments shortly.

According to Trends in Private Equity Investments in India - 2024 by Knight Frank, PE investments have been instrumental in driving the expansion of Indian real estate. In 2024, the market rebounded strongly, with PE inflows rising from USD 3.1 billion in 2023 to USD 4.1 billion in 2024. While geopolitical tensions and high interest rates initially dampened investor sentiment, the resilience of India's economy and improving global conditions are helping to restore confidence. These trends highlight the sector's ability to withstand external pressures and capitalise on emerging opportunities.

Global economic trends favour Indian real estate

The report said that macroeconomic shifts are set to further boost the investment outlook for Indian real estate. Interest rate cuts by the European Central Bank (ECB) and potential rate easing by the US Federal Reserve (Fed) are likely to redirect foreign capital flows into emerging markets like India. With prime locations and high-growth segments such as warehousing and office spaces offering strong potential, India is positioned to attract foreign investments.

Convergence of capital and regulatory support spurs growth

"The alignment of domestic "dry powder" (unallocated investment funds), increasing global investor interest, and a favourable regulatory environment is creating fertile ground for the sector's growth. Developers and investors stand to benefit from this synergy, unlocking sustainable growth across asset classes like residential, commercial, and warehousing," the report added.

Retail sector gains momentum

The report further added that the retail sector, a critical component of Indian real estate, is witnessing renewed optimism from investors. As retail sales recover and consumer spending grows, physical stores—particularly experiential retail and luxury brands—remain vital despite the rise of e-commerce. The shift toward organised retail formats, which offer greater scalability and efficiency, presents attractive opportunities for PE investments. Omnichannel strategies are expected to further drive growth.

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

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STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

FLUTTERING BEAUTY

Papilio polymnestor Cramer (Blue Mormon), a tailless black swallowtail butterfly spotted at the Kabini Wildlife Sanctuary

The picture was clicked by reader **NJ Ravi Chander**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com**

Skywalks shouldn't have to be stairway to heaven

Lack of lift facility at KR Puram Foot Overbridge causes public concern, as pedestrians choose to cross roads, putting their lives' at risk

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Most of the skywalks in the city stand largely unused as pedestrians risk crossing the road rather than utilising the safer crossing path, putting their lives at risk. But have you wondered why this is the case?

It is noted that one of the primary reasons the public avoids using skywalks, risking their safety, is that they mostly need to use the stairs due to the largely defunct/no escalators or elevators. For example, the newly inaugurated foot overbridge (FOB) on Outer Ring Road, intended to connect KR Puram Railway Station and the Metro Station, is now open to the public. However, the absence of a lift has led to ongoing difficulties for pedestrians.

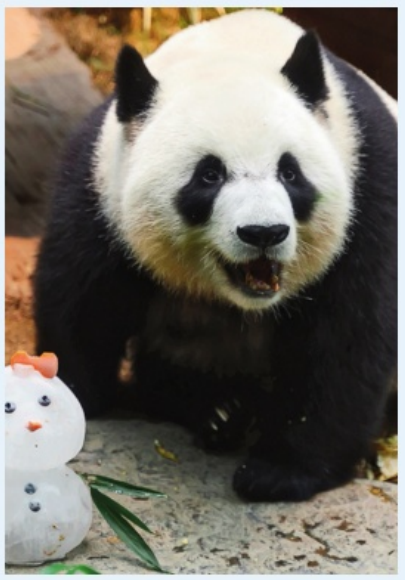
KR Puram Railway Station is one of the busiest stations, witnessing a footfall of thousands of passengers on a daily basis. As more people shift to the Metro for commuting, the need for seamless connectivity between the railway and Metro stations has become crucial. In response, the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) constructed the foot overbridge, but the lack of lift access has created significant challenges for senior citizens and differently-abled individuals.

Many pedestrians are crossing the busy road instead of using the overbridge due to the absence of lifts, which poses a serious safety risk. Currently, it takes about five minutes to walk from the KR Puram Railway Station to the Metro Station and around six to seven minutes to reach the BMTC (Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation bus stop). Local resident DK Devendra said, "There is an urgent need for lift installations to facilitate easier access for pedestrians. Crossing the road is difficult, and a lift facility should be installed on the pedestrian bridge as soon as possible."

Passengers carrying luggage are particularly affected by the lack of lift facilities at the FOB near the railway station. The area experiences increased traffic congestion due to its proximity to both stations, making it difficult for pedestrians to cross the road safely. "For younger people like us, climbing the stairs is manageable, but it's challenging for the elderly. Overall, the lack of lift access at the foot overbridge remains a pressing issue, highlighting the need for better infrastructure to ensure safe and convenient travel for all commuters," Devendra added.

Foot overbridge at KR Puram Railway Station (file pic)

DID YOU KNOW?



A pair of five-year-old pandas, named An An and Ke Ke, celebrated their first Christmas early in a Hong Kong park, munching on special treats and looking cute for the cameras. An An, the male panda, was presented with an ice slab that had "Merry Christmas" written on it with sweet potato and carrots while Ke Ke, his female companion, got a snowman garnished with slices of carrot and apple in a special press event before visitors streamed to the park. An An is described as intelligent and active while Ke Ke is known to have a gentle temperament.

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Image of Dr Manmohan Singh lying on hospital bed is not a recent one

Claim: The image of Dr Manmohan Singh bedridden in the hospital is his last picture. **Fact:** The claim is false. The image shows Dr Singh admitted to AIIMS in 2021 after complaining of weakness following a fever

NewsMeter.in

Former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh passed away on December 26, 2024, at the age of 92, following age-related health complications. He was receiving treatment at the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in New Delhi. In this context, an image of Dr Singh, reportedly bedridden in a hospital, has been circulating on social media, and some claim it shows his last picture. An X user shared the image and wrote, "Last photo of Manmohan Singhji. Salute to such a great personality who took the sinking economic condition of the country to new heights." (Archive)

Fact Check

NewsMeter found that the claim is false, as the image is from 2021. Upon a reverse image search, we found the uncropped version of the image and another posted by the Navbharat Times on October 14, 2021. The uncropped version showed then Union Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya and a doctor also featured in the image, while the other image featured Mandaviya and Singh's wife, Gursharan Kaur. The post stated that Mandaviya had visited former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh, who was admitted to AIIMS.

We also found the image published in a video report by The Tribune on October 14, 2021. According to the media outlet, Mansukh Mandaviya met former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh to enquire about his health, as he had been admitted to AIIMS after complaining of weakness following a fever. ANI also posted pictures on the same day of Mandaviya going to meet the former Prime Minister and Congress leader at AIIMS. However, according to a Hindustan Times report dated October 15, 2021, Mandaviya's visit to enquire about former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh's health faced criticism due to the same photograph allegedly taken inside the ward without the family's consent. The Congress party condemned the act, accusing the BJP of staging a 'photo op.' The criticism came after Singh's daughter, Daman Singh, accused Mandaviya of bringing a photographer against the family's wish.

We also came across an October 15, 2021, report by The Print titled, "'Not animals in a zoo': Manmohan's daughter says Mandaviya got pix shot in AIIMS despite objection." Speaking to the media outlet, Daman Singh revealed that her mother was deeply upset after a photographer entered the room with the minister. Despite her mother's insistence that the photographer leave, her request was 'completely ignored.' The report quoted Daman as saying, "She was very upset. My parents are trying to cope with a difficult situation. They are elderly people, not animals in a zoo."

Therefore, we conclude that the image of Dr Singh bedridden in the hospital is from 2021 and does not show his last picture. The claim is false. The story was originally published by NewsMeter (https://newsmeter.in/fact-check/dr-manmohan-singhs-last-image-shows-him-bedridden-in-hospital-no-image-is-from-2021-741313#google_vignette) and republished by Bangalore Mirror as part of the Shakti Collective.

As BBMP looks away, 83-year-old creates a sweeping change

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At 83, Surya Narayan (pic), a long-time resident of HSR Layout's 24th 'A' Cross, 28th Main Road, has become a symbol of determination and civic responsibility. For over two decades, his wife, Jayanti, and he have lived in the area, but in recent years, Narayan has taken it upon himself to sweep the street and surrounding areas, littered with leaves and debris, due to the lack of timely action by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

On a rainy Friday morning, Narayan was seen sweeping not just the street but also clearing the clogged drains. When a member of the Community Task Force, Madhusudhan, asked him why he is having to do this, Surya Narayan explained, "BBMP workers rarely show up to clean the street in front of my house. I now sweep twice or even thrice a day because of the rains." He is also a citizen who pays his taxes in advance, mind you.

Madhusudhan, who witnessed Narayan cleaning the street, shared how he admired this stretch during morning walks and was shocked to

know it was maintained by Narayan. "For over 15 years, I've admired the cleanliness of this stretch during my walks. I was shocked to discover an 83-year-old man maintaining it. While today's youth often shy away from such tasks, here's a super senior citizen setting an inspiring example."

Narayan told BM that BBMP workers seemed to have stopped coming after noticing him doing the work. "They've made it a habit to avoid this stretch, thinking I will clean it up anyway," he remarked.

His efforts go beyond sweeping. He uses the leaves he collects to create compost for his small garden, showcasing his commitment to sustainability.

However, he also highlighted other pressing issues, such as overgrown tree branches at the end of the street interfering with BESCOM power lines, causing frequent outages. "Even this has been brought to BBMP's attention, but there's no response," he said.

BBMP assures of action

When contacted, a BBMP official acknowledged the lapses, stating, "Garbage collection vehicles are responsible for clearing road litter, and streets should be swept every one or two days. We will take action and address the complaints raised."

Chill in the air

Bengalureans enjoy their walk in the rain on a hazy Friday evening **Pics: Kaushik JN**

Bike stunts turn fatal, 2 boys dead

Boys lose control of their vehicle and collide with canter, causing their death

Two youngsters died as a result of reckless riding on the Vijayapura Town Bypass Road on Friday morning.The victims, identified as Arbaz Pasha (resident of Rehmat Nagar) and Manoj (resident of Gurappa Math), were performing dangerous stunts on a two-wheeler when the accident occurred.

According to a complaint filed at the Vijayapura Police Station, the youngsters were riding a two-wheeler at high speed without headlights, attempting a wheelie, at 9.30 am. As they lost control, they collided with a canter vehicle traveling in the opposite direction near Prabhakar's cement shop.

The impact threw the riders on the road, and Arbaz Pasha suffered fatal head injuries, dying at the scene. Manoj sustained severe bleeding wounds and was rushed to Akash Hospital in Devanahalli. Despite efforts to save him, Manoj succumbed to his injuries before reaching the hospital.

The Vijayapura police arrived at the scene and took Pasha's body to the hospital. The complainant, a local labourer, has requested legal action

PIC FOR ILLUSTRATIVE PURPOSES ONLY

against the owner of the two-wheeler and the individual who allowed a minor to operate the vehicle.

Vehicle runs over biker at Sirsi Circle

An unknown vehicle ran over a person, resulting in fatal head injuries, at Sirsi flyover Circle near KR Market on Friday. The deceased has been identified as Shankar, a retired bank employee. He was riding from Madhanhana Market towards Mysore Road when the accident occurred.

According to initial reports, Shankar's bike fell on the flyover, and it is suspected that an unidentified vehicle ran over his head and fled the scene. Details regarding the vehicle involved in the accident remain unknown, as the driver allegedly hit the victim and quickly fled.

The victim's body was found by passersby, and the police were immediately alerted. The body was later transported to Victoria Hospital for further examination. A case has been registered at the Chamarajpet Traffic Police Station, and authorities are currently investigating the circumstances of the accident.

Headmaster ends life over civil dispute

A 59-year-old government primary school headmaster, Narasimhamurthy, took his own life at his residence in Hosahalli Road on Thursday night. His family discovered his body and immediately alerted the police.

Murthy, who was set to retire on January 15, was the headmaster of Jadigenahalli High School in Hoskote. In a death note found by the police, Murthy accused his relative, Sathish, of being responsible for his extreme action. The note mentioned a civil dispute over a piece of land owned by Murthy.

According to the police, Murthy owned 25 guntas of land in Tunganagar on Magadi Road, which Sathish had agreed to purchase for Rs 10 crore.

An agreement was signed between the two, but Murthy claimed that Sathish had only paid Rs 10 lakh, refusing to settle the remaining amount. Additionally, Murthy alleged that Sathish had illegally acquired the property and had even threatened him.

Police officials confirmed that there was an ongoing court case regarding the property dispute. The Byadarahalli police have registered a case based on the death note and are continuing their investigation into the matter. **Sanjana CS**

Metro fare: Panel to submit recommendations soon

The Fare Fixation Committee (FFC) is set to present its final recommendations on Namma Metro fare adjustments to the government within the next few days.

Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) sources indicate plans for a 15-25% fare adjustment, the first since a 10-15% rise in 2017. Currently, token fares range from Rs 10 to Rs 60. Smart card users receive a 5% discount, reduced from 15% in 2020 due to rising operational costs.

A three-person panel, led by retired Madras High Court Justice R Tharani, was established to assess Metro's fare structure. Officials report that the committee has undertaken extensive research on metro fares across Indian and international cities to ensure a well-considered fare adjustment. In October, BMRCL released a notice requesting citizens to submit their suggestions. **BMB**

Gender modification: HC asks state to propose changes to Act

The High Court has directed the state government to propose changes to the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969, and its associated rules to align with the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act 2019, specifically regarding name and gender modifications in birth/death certificates.

The court instructed the Registrar to update birth and death certificates of transgender individuals upon receiving applications with appropriate identity and gender change certificates as stipulated under Sections 6 and 7 of the Transgender Persons(Protection of Rights) Act 2019. Justice Suraj Govindaraj issued an interim directive stating that until suitable amendments are enacted, Registrars must honour certificates issued under Sections 6 or 7 of the 2019 Act. The modified certificates should display both previous and current names, along with relevant certificate details.

The court requested the Karnataka Law Commission to examine the Transgender Act and recommend appropriate amendments to the 1969 Act and its rules. The Registrar (Judicial) was instructed to forward this order to the Law Commission Chairperson. **BMB**

As of now just 1 ambulance for pregnant women

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

as Halasuru, Jogupalya, Austin Town, Shanti Nagar, DJ Halli, Cox Town, Munireddy Palya, and Ganganagar used to have four ambulances dedicated for maternity services, but now there is only one ambulance functioning round the clock.

"I brought my wife here in an auto rickshaw due to the shortage of ambulances. Though it may not cost much to hire an auto rickshaw, it is not safe for a pregnant woman to hire an auto rickshaw. It would be a great help for pregnant women from poor families if the BBMP arranges ambulances during emergencies," said a resident who brought his wife to Halasuru Referral Hospital.

There are four drivers for four ambulances at Halasuru Referral Hospital. With three ambulances unfit for use, these drivers are working in three shifts with one ambulance. "The authorities have asked us not to use the three ambulances. Now, it has become tough for us to cater to the needs of pregnant women who depend on seven to eight maternity hospitals maintained by the BBMP," said a driver on the condition of anonymity.

Circular issued by Karnataka Government Insurance Department on November 4, 2024

Demanding that the BBMP Health Department procure new ambulances without any delay, BK Chandran, a social activist from Halasuru, said the Halasuru Referral Hospital is in a good condition but the doctor in-charge of the hospital has not taken an initiative to procure new ambulances even two months after three ambulances were put out of service. "The BBMP Health Department must complete the process to procure new ambulances without any delay," said Chandran.

A vehicle that is more than 15 years old is lying in the backyard of Halasuru Referral Hospital

Meanwhile, BBMP Health Officer Dr Latha claimed that all the ambulances are being used. "There are some people spreading rumours. There is no shortage of ambulances for maternity homes maintained by the BBMP Health Department," Dr Latha said.

When asked about three ambulances that were lying idle on the hospital premises, Dr Latha refused to comment.

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I, NAMBU PRIYADHARSHINI SURIYANARAYANAN, 198, PHEONIX ROYALE BUILDING 3rd CROSS, NEELADRI NAGAR, ELECTRONIC CITY PHASE 1, BENGALURU -560100 have changed my name to NAMBU PRIYADHARSHINI B

I, Ume Salma W/o Junaid Ahmed Shariff R/o No.33 North Afundi Apt, Flat.102, 2nd Flr, 33/3, Robertson Rd, Fraser town, Bengaluru 560005 have changed my name to Umme Salma Affidavit Dt.27/12/2024 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Aisha Tabasum Gulfarosh R/O No 252, 1st Main, 4th Floor, Anam Enclave, Ashwat Nagar, Blr-560077. I changed my name from Aiysha Tabassum.S to Aisha Tabasum Gulfarosh for all future purposes.

I, Padma Reddy S V, W/o R Krishna Reddy R/at # 9/1, 4th A Cross, Subedar Palya, Yeshwanthapur, Bangalore-560022 here by declare that PADMA S V and PADMA REDDY S V both the names belongs to me only, vide affidavit dt: 27.12.2024 before notary A. Manjula, Bangalore.

I Anish Vijaykumar Daddi S/O, Vijaykumar Daddi R/o 102, 2b Suncity Gloria Appartments, Sarjapur Road, Doddakanhalli, Bengaluru - 560035 have changed my name to Anish Daddi.

I, MOHAMED RAZIQ S/o K.M Abdul Hafeez R/at No.70, 3rd Main Road, Bhuvaneshwari Nagar, Bengaluru- 560032 have changed my name to MOHAMMED RAZIQ vide affidavit dated: 26/12/2024 Before Notary Deepa.M Bangalore.

I Herisha S Doshi D/o Satish Natvarlal Doshi and W/o Deepen Jagdish Vora have changed my name from Herisha Deepen Vora to Herisha S Doshi for all future purposes.

I, KUMAR VELURU CHINNA PPA NAIDU S/o Chinnappa Naidu, R/at #1372, 2nd A Main road, Gokul Extension, Yeswanthpura, Bengaluru-560022 have changed my name to KUMAR VELLORE CHINNAPPA NAIDU, vide affidavit dt: 27.12.2024 before notary A. Manjula, Bangalore.

I, Shaik Hibza Shaik Zameer R/o Near Noorani Masjid Rahamath Nagar-563101 have changed my name to Shaik Haibza.

I, Amitesh Kumar R/o 4134 Dsr Sunrise Towers, Channasandra, Kadugodi Post, Bengaluru - 560067 have changed my minor son's name from Aarav to Aarav Anant.

I, MOHAMED MUZAMIL S/o Mohammed yousuf P A, Tumbadi Post, Kasaba Hobli, Koratgere Taluk, Pakirappana Palya, Tumbadi, Tumakuru 572129. Changed my name as MOHAMMAD MUZAMIL. Also my father's name has been changed from Mohamed Yasuf P A to MOHAMMED YOUSUF PAKKIRAPPANAPALYA AGRICULTURIST

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GET NOTICED

Manmohan Singh
1932—2024

Common persons and world leaders alike join in to remember late leader

Tributes pour in, memories & anecdotes flood social media

A leaf artist displays his creation of a portrait of former Prime Minister Late Manmohan Singh on a leaf, as a tribute to show condolences for his passing, in Agartala on Wednesday

President Droupadi Murmu, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar and Prime Minister Narendra Modi were among the top dignitaries who paid homage to former prime minister Manmohan Singh at his residence here on Friday.

Several leaders cutting across party lines, including Union ministers and Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi, Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi, also paid their tributes to the former two-term prime minister who died on Thursday night.

President Murmu and Vice President Dhankhar visited the residence of Singh and paid their last respects to him and met his wife and other family members.

Prime Minister Modi, who also laid a wreath, described his predecessor's death as a big loss to the nation, asserting that his commitment to the people and for the country's development would always be respected.

In a video message, Modi recalled Singh's life journey after his family migrated to India following Partition and noted that he left everything behind but his numerous achievements since then were no mean feat.

Singh, the architect of India's economic reforms and a consensus builder in the rough world of politics, died at AIIMS, Delhi, late on Thursday. He was 92. He is survived by his wife and three daughters.

Mallikarjun Kharge pays his last respects

The Union cabinet at its meeting held under PM Modi also condoled Singh's passing and hailed him as an eminent statesman and a distinguished leader who left an imprint on national life.

During a meeting chaired by Modi, the cabinet observed a two-minute silence in honour of the departed soul and adopted a Condolence Resolution in the memory of Singh. "Dr Manmohan Singh has left his imprint on our national life. In his passing away, the Nation has lost an eminent statesman, renowned economist and a distinguished leader," the resolution read. The government has announced a seven-day State mourning as a mark of respect to the former prime minister. Draped in the Tricolour, Singh's body was brought to his 3, Motilal Nehru Road, residence -- the sprawling bungalow in Lutyens' Delhi that served as his retirement abode for the last over 10 years ever since he relinquished charge as prime minister.

The Indian national flag flies half-mast at the Parliament to mourn the death

Several leaders paid their last respects to the former prime minister in the presence of his wife Gursharan Kaur and other family members.

Singh would be cremated on Saturday and his final journey will commence from the AICC headquarters at 9.30 am on Saturday, Congress general secretary K C Venugopal said.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu and Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy also came to Delhi to pay their last respects to the former prime minister.

Born to Gurmukh Singh and Amrit Kaur on September 26, 1932 in Gah village of the Punjab province of undivided India (now Pakistan), Singh passed his matriculation examination in 1948. His family migrated to Amritsar after Partition in 1948 after living shortly in Haldwani.

Singh completed his intermediate and graduation in economics from the Hindu College here before moving out of the city to pursue higher studies in Panjab University's Hoshiarpur campus.

His academic career took him from Punjab to the University of Cambridge, UK, where he earned a First Class Honours degree in Economics. Singh followed this with a DPhil in Economics from Nuffield College of Oxford University.

Singh's half-brother Surjit Singh Kohli said the former prime minister had deep affection for his grandmother, who raised him following his mother's death when he was very young. After migrating to India, the Singh family settled in a small rented house in Amritsar till he graduated.

A few years ago, Singh attended the convocation-cum-alumni meet of the Hindu College in Amritsar as chief guest and interacted with the staff like an ordinary person, reminiscing old memories, retired Hindu College professor Rajinder Loomba said. **PTI**

State Cong pays tributes to Singh at venue planned for convention

Karnataka Congress on Friday paid tributes to former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, who died on Thursday, at the site where they planned mega convention here for the centenary celebrations of the 1924 Indian National Congress session presided by Mahatma Gandhi.

Several Congress leaders including its President Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, attended the extended Congress Working Committee meeting planned as part of the centenary celebrations, here on Thursday.

They were scheduled to address a mega convention named 'Jai Bapu- Jai Bhim - Jai Samvidhan' here today, but the event was cancelled following Singh's demise. Kharge, Gandhi and several AICC leaders have rushed back to Delhi.

Other leaders including Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister and state Congress chief D K Shivakumar, state ministers and legislators paid floral tributes to Singh's portrait at the venue planned for mega convention.

Siddaramaiah in his address said, Manmohan Singh was a great economist and a very humble human being. "He was soft natured, soft and less spoken. I had the opportunity to meet him several times as the Leader of Opposition and Chief Minister of Karnataka.

He treated and spoke to everyone respectfully and heard everyone patiently and used to say directly whether something told or requested of him will either happen or not," he said. Singh was an honest Prime Minister, the CM said.

Shivakumar lauded Manmohan Singh's economic policies and contribution for the country's progress. He asked the Karnataka Higher Education Minister to explore the possibility of setting up a big research centre on Singh's economic policy at the Bengaluru University. **PTI**

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HEALTH TIP: Meditation can lower cortisol levels, improve emotional regulation, and enhance focus

Practices such as yoga or deep breathing exercises create a sense of calm

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Dogs & cats get diabetes too

Here's what to look out for and how to manage the disease in your pets

Learning a pet has diabetes can be a shock. However, the disease can be managed. And for cats, but not dogs, effective early treatment even gives them a good chance of remission. Diabetes in cats and dogs is fairly common – though not as common as in humans. It affects about 1.5% of dogs and 0.5–1% of cats. So what exactly is diabetes? What are the warning signs? And how do you manage the disease?

What is diabetes?

Glucose is the body's primary energy source. Insulin, a hormone produced in the pancreas, regulates levels of this blood-borne sugar, its uptake into cells and its storage in the liver and muscles.

In animals with diabetes, the body does not secrete enough insulin. The result is high glucose levels (hyperglycemia) and associated clinical signs. Some breeds and unspayed female dogs are more at risk, as are middle-aged, older and obese animals. Diabetes mellitis (its full scientific name) is generally classified into four main types:

1. Type 1 diabetes

This form results from autoimmune destruction of insulin-producing pancreatic cells, because the immune system attacks them by mistake.

Type 1 is common in dogs but rare in cats. Its onset in dogs, usually in middle age, is often insidious.

2. Type 2 diabetes

This form is characterised by insulin resistance and dysfunction in cells that produce insulin. It accounts for most cases in cats but is rare in dogs.

The major risk factors are obesity and increasing age. Other factors include genetics, physical inactivity and being kept indoors and the use of glucocorticoid steroids.

In the earlier stages, when the cat is still producing some insulin of its own, type 2 diabetes can be managed using drugs that reduce blood glucose. The drugs are formally known as "sodium-glucose transporter 2" or (SGLT2) inhibitors.

For more advanced cases, insulin injections are essential. Long-acting insulin in cats typically controls blood glucose levels better than the intermediate-acting insulins typically used in dogs.

Weight loss is also important for overweight or obese animals. The maximum safe rate of weight loss is 1-2% of body weight a week in cats, so achieving an ideal weight can take 6–12 months. Adding steamed zucchini to each meal can help with weight loss.

> **Type 2 diabetes is characterised by insulin resistance and dysfunction in cells that produce insulin. It accounts for most cases in cats but is rare in dogs**

3. Other specific types

Some diabetes types are caused by other medical conditions such as chronic pancreatitis, which is common in diabetic dogs, or acromegaly in cats, where too much growth hormone results in marked insulin resistance.

4. Dioestrus and Gestational diabetes

Diabetes can occur in older female dogs after they have been in heat. In dioestrus, secretion of increased growth hormone from mammary glands counteracts insulin. Although very rare in pets, female dogs can get transient diabetes in pregnancy.

What are the signs to look for?

Signs of diabetes usually emerge slowly over weeks to months. If diagnosis is delayed, the pet's health can decline rapidly over 24–48 hours, leading to death if not immediately treated.

Signs to look out for include increased thirst and urination, increased appetite and weight loss. However, some dogs and up to 50% of cats with diabetes have a reduced appetite.

Diabetic cats' posture may change to a flat-footed stance and they may lose jumping ability. Diabetic dogs are prone to cataracts.

Diagnosis involves documenting persistently high blood glucose levels along with glucose in the urine. Certain or tests tests can confirm the diagnosis by measuring average blood glucose over the past several weeks. In cats, early diagnosis before clinical signs appear can be difficult because the stress of visiting the vet often raises blood glucose levels. Multiple measurements and/or urine analysis, preferably at home, may be needed to confirm the diagnosis.

What are the treatment options?

Tailored monitoring and treatment can improve quality of life and reduce euthanasia rates. In cats, early intervention can potentially delay onset of clinical diabetes and reduce the burden of long-term insulin treatment.

Insulin therapy remains the cornerstone of treatment. Options range from short-acting for immediate control to intermediate and long-acting insulin for daily management.

In dogs, types of insulin known as "porcine lente" or "protamine zinc" are commonly used. Consistent feeding schedules and exercise help stabilise blood glucose.

SGLT2 inhibitors have almost no risk of clinical signs from low blood glucose (hypoglycemia) and can be given with food. This may help overcome common treatment barriers such as having to give twice daily injections for cats with diabetes.

However, these treatments are most effective with early diagnosis, as they require the cat to still produce enough insulin to suppress formation of ketones (acids your body makes when it breaks down fat for energy). Especially in the first few weeks of treatment, ketone monitoring is crucial to avoid life-threatening complications.

For cats showing more advanced signs of diabetes, their own insulin secretion is unlikely to be enough for management with oral SGLT2 inhibitors, and insulin injections are needed. Longer-acting insulin is more effective for inducing remission. Dietary changes are essential. Low-carbohydrate diets improve remission rates for cats when combined with long-acting insulin. However, such diets might not be suitable when using SGLT2 inhibitors. In newly diagnosed cats without other medical conditions, tight control of blood glucose levels can lead to remission in up to 80% of cases. Sustained weight management is then key to maintaining it without other treatment.

Dogs rarely achieve remission because the destruction of insulin-producing cells in type 1 diabetes is irreversible.

Diabetic cats and dogs can have a good life

Diabetes in dogs and cats is manageable with the right vet care, owner commitment, and adjustments to diet and body weight.

Advances in home glucose monitoring, including continuous monitors, mean vets and pet owners can better track and manage blood glucose. For most diabetic dogs it's a lifelong condition. For cats, the prospect of remission, as well as giving owners hope, underscores the need for awareness of early symptoms and early vet care.

Through diligent weight management, diet, glucose monitoring and insulin dose adjustments, pets with diabetes can live healthy, fulfilling lives.

(By Jacquie Rand, The University of Queensland, The Conversation)

All you need to know about...

Exercise & liver

Managing liver disease
Exercise is a cornerstone in managing metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease (MASLD), according to a study led by an Indian-origin researcher.

What is MASLD
MASLD, previously known as non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD), is a chronic liver disease that occurs when fat builds up in the liver in people who don't drink much alcohol. It can affect people with diabetes, obesity, high blood pressure, or high cholesterol.

Even in case of cirrhosis
The study, led by Hirsh D Trivedi and team at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in California, US showed that exercise can be beneficial even for patients who have progressed to cirrhosis -- severe scarring of the liver.

Reduces liver fat
Besides weight loss, exercise can aid in reducing liver fat, improving inflammation biomarkers, and enhancing cardiovascular health, revealed the study, published in the Liver International journal.

Therapeutic tool
"Personalised exercise regimens should be prioritised for all patients, including those receiving pharmacotherapy," said the researchers in the paper. "Exercise is a great therapeutic tool across all stages of liver disease, including advanced liver disease! Would not limit physical activity solely based on liver disease stage and even folks living with cirrhosis can safely exercise," said Jonathan G. Stine, part of the research team, on X.
The findings, based on a review of pre-clinical and clinical studies showed that increased physical activity is associated with reduced liver disease incidence and better outcomes. The team also urged for adopting an evidence-based, systematic approach to prescribing exercise for patients. **-IANS**

Friendship goals

Malayalam cinema superstar Dulquer Salmaan and Telugu star Rana Daggubati are packing bromance, and setting new goals of friendship. In the latest episode of the Telugu streaming chat show 'The Rana Daggubati Show' features Dulquer Salmaan heaping praise on Rana for his pursuit of excellence.

During a candid interaction, Dulquer reminisced about his first meeting with Rana, noting, "When I was in ninth standard, you must've been in eighth".

Responding to the same, Rana said, "No, I would've failed two years. I must have been in sixth or something".

Dulquer also fondly recalled Rana's visit to his Kochi home during the shoot of 'Virata Parvam', as he said, "That was the first time he came over and met my mom. She loved him. Rana ate a lot, and she has a thing for kids who enjoy eating. It was an instant connection".

Dulquer also praised Rana's debut in 'Leader' as a brave choice. He said, "I've always admired how Rana doesn't chase stardom but instead seeks out compelling stories and memorable characters". In turn, Rana lauded Dulquer's versatility and knack for choosing distinctive roles.

He shared, "From the moment Dulq started his career, I knew he'd do something special. His approach to storytelling and the characters he's brought to life have left a mark in Telugu Cinema".

–IANS

LEADING LADIES

Sara or Triptii? Who will play lead role in Sooraj Barjatya's next?

Sooraj Barjatya is said to be working on a new film featuring Ayushmann Khurrana in the lead role. The family movie is in progress as reported in Pinkvilla, and Sara Ali Khan and Triptii Dimri are being considered for the female lead, but nothing is confirmed yet. Look tests for the actresses will happen in January 2025.

A recent report from Mid-day states that Sara and Triptii are being considered for the female lead in Barjatya's new film with Ayushmann. Sara is seen as a good fit for the Rajshri universe because of her charm, while Triptii's performances in 'Bulbbul' and 'Qala' show she can add depth to her character.

Ayushmann and Sara are also working together on an untitled spy comedy directed by Aakash Kaushik. The report mentions that Barjatya will meet both actresses in January for a look test, and their chemistry with Ayushmann will be important for the final casting decision.

Sooraj Barjatya's last film as a director was 'Uunchai', which follows three elderly friends as they go on a trek to the Everest Base Camp to honor their late friend's wish. Ayushmann Khurrana has several films lined up for the future. He will star in an untitled spy thriller alongside Sara Ali Khan. Additionally, he is set to appear in 'Thama', a horror-comedy featuring Rashmika Mandanna, which is scheduled for release on Diwali 2025.

–ETimes

'All We Imagine as Light' on OTT in Jan

Payal Kapadia's 'All We Imagine as Light' is all set to kickstart its digital journey soon.

The film, which recently bagged two nominations at the Golden Globes Awards 2025, will hit the streaming giant Disney+ Hotstar on January 3.

Excited about the OTT release, Payal in a press note said, "I am thrilled at the love All We Imagine as Light has received from all of you. After a successful theatrical run, I am happy that it will now be available to watch on Disney+ Hotstar. I am very excited now to share it with a wider audience."

Starring Kani Kusruti, Divya Prabha and Chhaya Kadam, the film is an official Indo-French co-production between Petit Chaos from France and Chalk & Cheese and Another Birth from India.

The film follows Prabha, a troubled nurse who receives an unexpected gift from her estranged husband, and Anu, her young roommate seeking intimacy with her boyfriend. A trip to a beach town allows them to confront their desires.

The film stars Kani Kusruti, Divya Prabha, and Hridhu Haroon, all hailing from Kerala. Earlier this year, the film created history by winning the prestigious Grand Prix at the Cannes Film Festival.

'All We Imagine As Light' premiered at the 2024 Cannes Film Festival in its much-feted 'competition section' on May 23. It was the first Indian film to feature in the festival's main segment in 30 years. The last Indian movie to make it to the competition section was Shaji N Karun's Swaham in 1994.

And in December, a golden moment was etched in the history of Indian cinema with Payal Kapdia becoming the first Indian director to receive a Golden Globe nomination for Best Director.

–ANI

Love in the time of smartphones

OUT OF SYLLABUS (KANNADA)
3.0 RATING ★★★★★
- **DIRECTOR** Pradeep Doddaiah
- **ACTORS** Pradeep Doddaiah, Hrithika Shrinivas, Achyuth Kumar, Yogaraj Bhat, Chitkala Biradar, Ramakrishna, and Mahantesh Hiremath.
- **Duration** 140 minutes
- **Certification** UA

Pradeep Doddaiah, who plays the lead in this film, has also written its script and directed it. The movie is special as it explores contemporary issues of love, trust and betrayal among youngsters. It conveys a message on the ill-effects of mobile phones and how lives are ruined with overdependence on mobiles even to trust near and dear ones. It is claimed that the movie is based on true incidents.

The problem with this movie is that it takes much time to gain momentum. A few scenes, including that of a college administrator working as an agent and boozing and also posting a wrong message, are far from convincing. The director has used a different narrative style.

The movie begins with a felicitation function organised for an outgoing principal. Alumni of the college, including Dev (Pradeep Doddaiah) and Divya (Hrithika Shrinivas), gather at the college. The organisers of the function ask Dev to deliver a speech. After the felicitation function, Dev and his friends attend a dinner party. At this juncture, Dev reveals how he fell in love with Divya and how he went to the US and how Divya got frustrated with him. What happens to Dev and Divya when they approach an advocate is what the movie Out of Syllabus is all about.

As far as the performances of the actors are concerned, Pradeep Doddaiah, despite holding too many responsibilities, has acted well. His acting is good in the climax. Hrithika Srinivas looks good. Yogaraj Bhat as a college lecturer has acted well. Achyuth Kumar, Chitkala Biradar, and Ramakrishn provide good support. Mahantesh Hiremath fails to tickle funny bones of audiences. The cinematographer should have tried harder.

If you want to understand youngsters' issues and problems, you can watch the film.

–Y Maheswara Reddy

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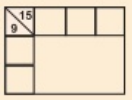
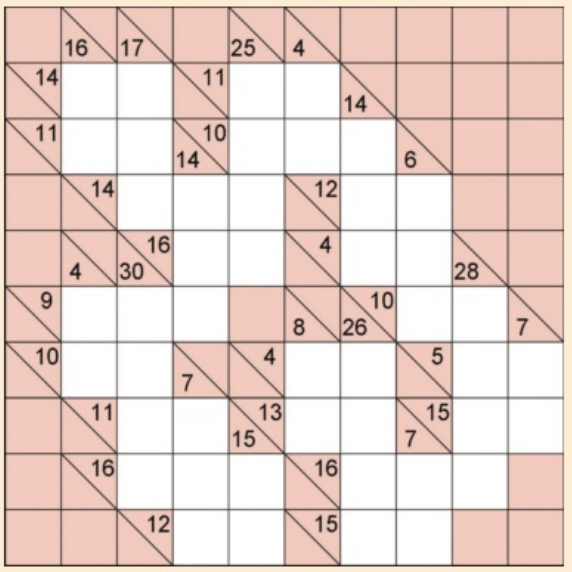
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

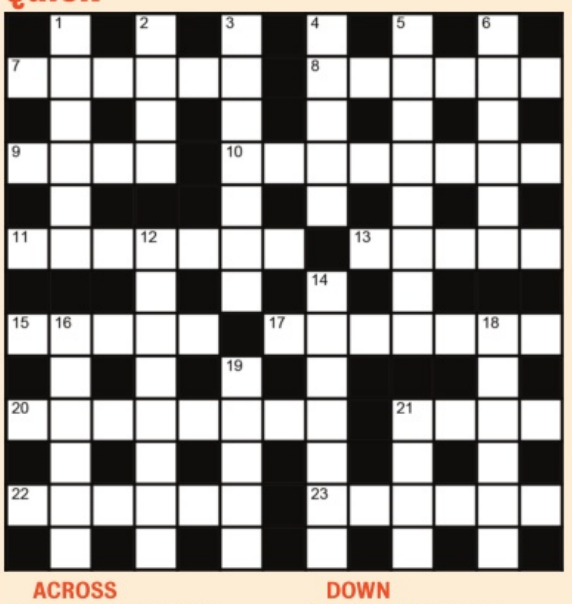


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Electric generator (6)
8 Sprain, twist or pull (6)
9 Do as ordered (4)
10 Hardens or becomes bonelike (8)
11 Cried like a sheep ? (7)
13 Rely on; have faith in (5)
15 Driving force (5)
17 Ex-U.S. President ___ M. Nixon (7)
20 A double-crosser or a cheat? (3-5)
21 You will find the remnants of his fort in the City Market area (4)
22 Eat noisily? (6)
23 Incidents (6)

DOWN

1 Emblem or badge (6)
2 On your guard! (4)
3 Recovered from? (3,4)
4 On a level with the water? (5)
5 Begin or start a journey? (3,5)
6 Means of entry or approach (6)
12 Adjusting to suit a new use (8)
14 Female feline (7)
16 Cheap and showy (6)
18 A fencing sword (6)
19 City in Nebraska (5)
21 Sci-fi TV serial Star __ (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: U EQUALS G

J QNBHPN BO J OCPZHJHWN, FWWSBGU JH PTPNLHDBGU QBHD J DBUDFL ZNBHB_ZJF PLP.

Linemaro

Are we related? Do you want to be?

Mindchow

The greatest strength of a consultant is to admit ignorance and ask questions

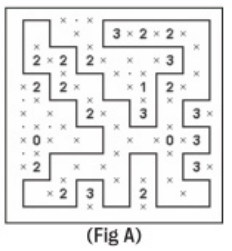
Joke of the day

Why don't dentists display their awards? Because they want to avoid plaque build up

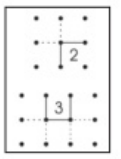
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

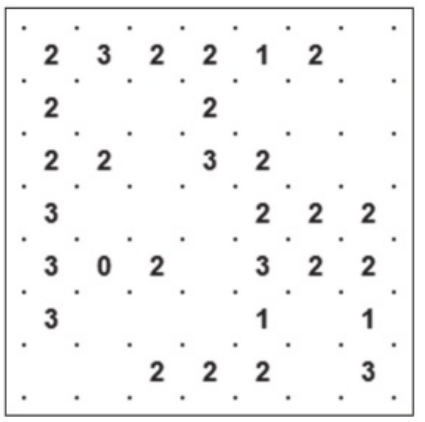


(Fig B) Not Allowed

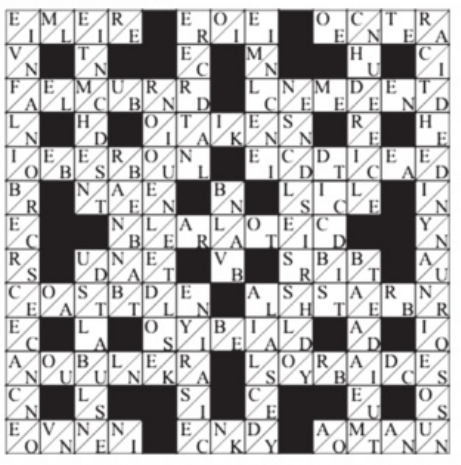
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5
6	H			
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

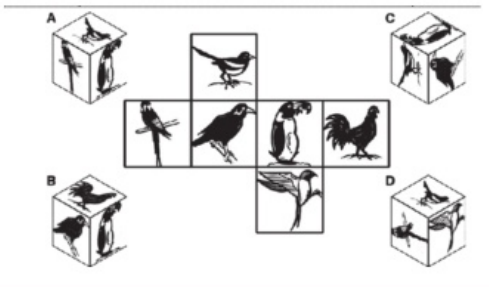
1 Ray RA; 6 Bet he; 7 Smite; 8 Alone; 9 Spore

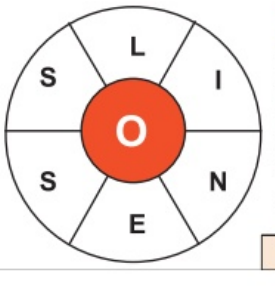
DOWN

1 At art; 2 Hi Ron; 3 Moper; 4 Ale be; 5 Essey

Mensapuzzle

Which picture cube does this shape make?





Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

10 Average; **12** Good; **14** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

		6		8		4		
			7		3			
2				1				7
4		3	2		5	7		9
5		8				2		4
7		9	3		8	5		6
8				7				3
			8		1			
		4		2		8		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 1

3 5 8 9

Medium = 25

2 3 7 8

Hard = 29

2 8 9 5

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

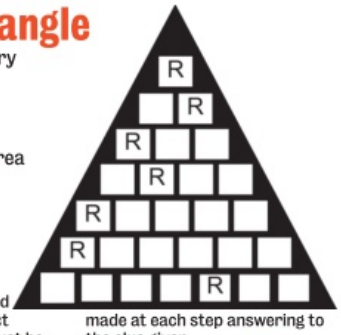
Differences: 1. Arm is longer. 2. Side mirror is missing. 3. Grill is missing. 4. Headlight is smaller. 5. Hat is different. 6. Window is smaller.

Riddler

An electric train is traveling on a 1400-kilometer journey from Mumbai to New Delhi. It has 16 cars with a total of 320 passengers. The weather is cloudy and cool, with a warm front approaching from the south. Which direction will the steam blow?

Alpha triangle

1 Radius in geometry
2 Infra-red abbr
3 Manipulate
4 Broad smile
5 Rule
6 A geographical area
7 Unheeded

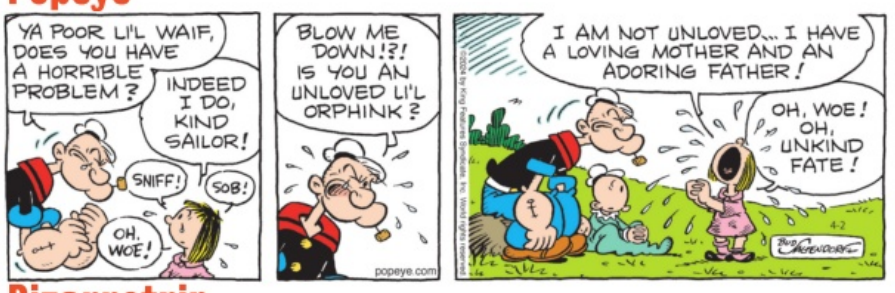


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

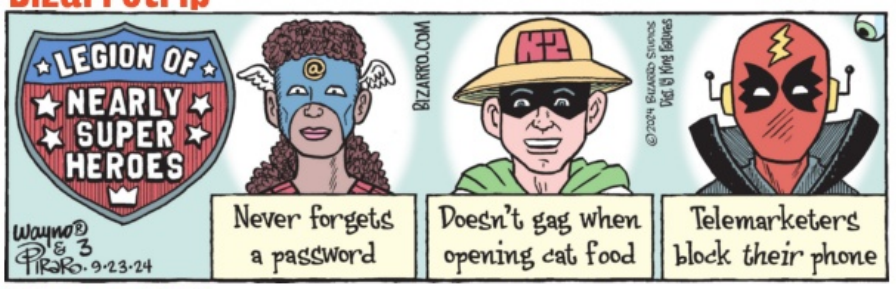
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Popeye


YA POOR LI'L WAIF, DOES YOU HAVE A HORRIBLE PROBLEM?
INDEED I DO, KIND SAILOR!
SNIFF!
SOB!
OH, WOE!
BLOW ME DOWN!?! IS YOU AN UNLOVED LI'L ORPHINK?
popeye.com
I AM NOT UNLOVED... I HAVE A LOVING MOTHER AND AN ADORING FATHER!
OH, WOE! OH, UNKIND FATE!

Bizarrotrip

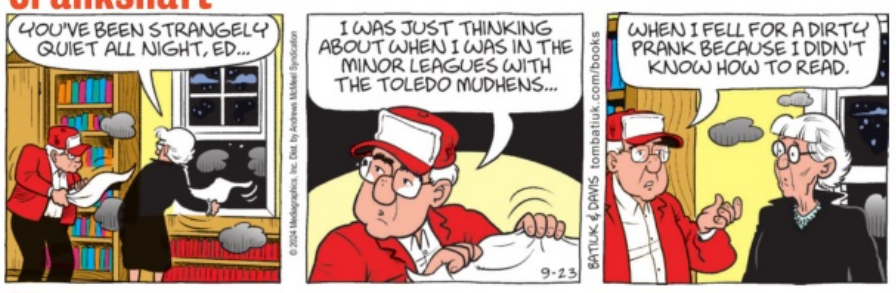

LEGION OF NEARLY SUPER HEROES
BIZARRO.COM
Never forgets a password
Doesn't gag when opening cat food
Telemarketers block their phone
Wayno® & 3 PIRATES 9-23-24

Diamond Lil

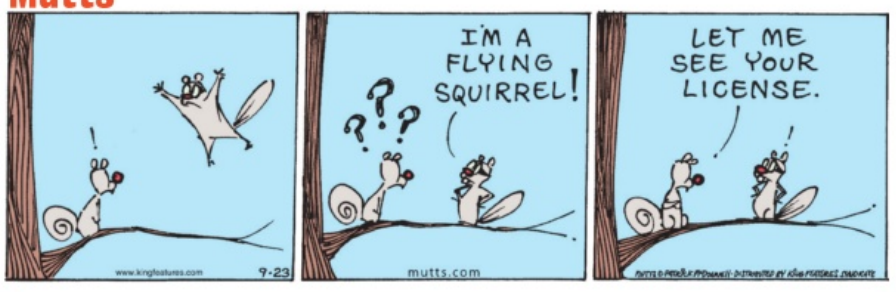
Hart of the city

OOF!
OH, HEY! HEADED TO LUNCH?
YEP! AND YOU HAVE GYM, RIGHT?
YEAH...I JUST REALIZED WE DON'T HAVE ANY CLASSES TOGETHER.
OH, YEAH. I GUESS NOT.
WELP, SEE YA LATER!
HART OF THE CITY © 2024 ANDREWS MCMEEL
@OCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft


YOU'VE BEEN STRANGELY QUIET ALL NIGHT, ED...
I WAS JUST THINKING ABOUT WHEN I WAS IN THE MINOR LEAGUES WITH THE TOLEDO MUDHENS...
9-23
WHEN I FELL FOR A DIRTY PRANK BECAUSE I DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO READ.
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books

Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you might feel a bit low; it is essential to stay calm. It is advised to think twice before taking any action. You may travel somewhere to recover money, but it is advised that you proceed cautiously to avoid financial loss. You must avoid adventure tours. Students are encouraged to focus on in-depth study for success.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today's day is filled with positivity and domestic harmony. You may meet an influential person who could benefit your career. Outstanding performance at work may lead to rewards, such as a promotion. Disputes over inherited property are likely to resolve favourably.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you'll be busy with your children and may plan investments for their future. You might also consider innovative ideas in partnerships or plan for higher studies to advance your career. Business investments could yield promising results in the near future.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may engage in self-analysis, boosting your confidence and clarifying your goals. Success is within reach, and your creativity is likely to flourish, with an increased interest in art, cinema, and other real-life inspirations. By day's end, you'll feel content, and adversaries will lose their influence over you.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Helping the needy will enhance your reputation today. Fresh ideas may inspire you, and your innovative approaches could boost your business. Lovebirds might plan a special outing or adventure trip to bond and rejuvenate.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, domestic matters will keep you busy. Spending on artefacts or household items is likely, but it is advised that you control unnecessary expenses to avoid inviting negative energy into your home. Also, you are advised to mind your tone while speaking with those around you to maintain harmony.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, your spiritual power will bring joy and positivity. You may feel drawn to spiritual practices or visit a religious site. Interests in occult sciences might also arise. You are advised to maintain discretion when sharing your views and discuss them only with like-minded individuals to avoid disappointment.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
You might feel nervous and impatient today. So you may be seeking solace in spirituality or occult studies. It is advised that you trust your intuition before making significant decisions. This could also be an excellent time to delve deeply into a subject or research area of interest.

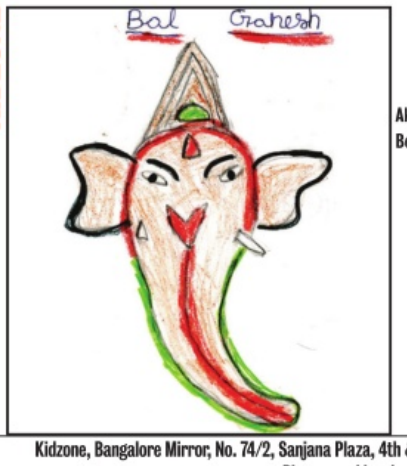
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
With the moon favourably positioned, today brings positive momentum to your professional and personal life. You may expect gains from investments. Hard work will yield success. You may also expect appreciation for your efforts from friends and relatives.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, a productive day lies ahead. Improvements in your children's health will bring relief, and you might consider investments for their future. Loyalty to your job will be rewarded, and job seekers could find opportunities through references. Elder's blessings will help you identify and overcome hidden challenges.

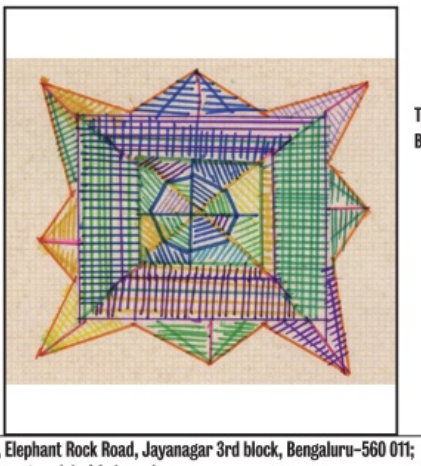
Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today is a good day. Your mother's health improves, bringing peace of mind.
Rest and balance are essential today. Workplace rewards and increased social respect will boost your morale. However, mental exhaustion from work might prevent you from attending family events.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today is a peaceful day. Satisfaction at work defines your day. You might plan a short business trip or visit a religious site for inner peace. Guidance from mentors will provide clarity and help you realign with your goals.

KIDZONE



Akhilesh, Bengaluru



Tanmayi, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
= (60+4)'½ = x|-16
= 8+16 = x|
= x| = 24 = 4|
x = 4

RIDDLER
There is no steam. It's an electric train.

STRIKE OUT

I	L	L	I	E	R	O	E	O	C	T	A	N		
N	T		E	M			H		H		C			
F	E	C	U	N	D		C	E	M	E	N	T		
L		H		O	A	K	E	N		R		E		
O	B	E	R	O	N		E	D	D	I	E	D		
R		N	A	N		L	I	E				I		
C	A	S	T	L	E		A	S	T	E	R	N		
S		U	A	E		B	A	S	I	T		U		
E		B	E	R	A	T	E	D				N		
		R		N		L	I	E				I		
		C	A	S	T	L	E		A	S	T	E	R	N
		N	O	B	L	E	R		L	Y	R	I	C	S
		E		A	S	Y	B	I	L	I		D		I
		T	W	O	T	I	M	E	R		T	I	P	U
		S	T	E	A	M		R	I	C	H	A	R	D
				D			R		T					
		B	L	E	A	T	E	D		T	R	U	S	T
		O				V		H		O		S		
O	B	E	Y		O	S	S	I		I	F	I	E	S
D	Y	N	A	M	O		W	R	E	N	C	H		
		M		R		T		A		T		C		
C	R	U	N	C	H		S	C	E	N	E	S		
		D		I		A		E		R		I		
		A		P		O		G				A		
S	W		G		A		S		K		R			

QUICK

S	W		G		A		S		K		R			
	Y													
C	R	U	N	C	H		S	C	E	N	E	S		
		D		I		A		E		R		I		
		A		P		O		G				A		
T	W	O	T	I	M	E	R		T	I	P	U		
		S												
S	T	E	A	M		R	I	C	H	A	R	D		
				D			R		T					
B	L	E	A	T	E	D		T	R	U	S	T		
		O				V		H		O		S		
O	B	E	Y		O	S	S	I		I	F	I	E	S
D	Y	N	A	M	O		W	R	E	N	C	H		
		M		R		T		A		T		C		
C	R	U	N	C	H		S	C	E	N	E	S		
		D		I		A		E		R		I		
		A		P		O		G				A		
S	W		G		A		S		K		R			

MENSA PUZZLE
C

BULL'S EYE
insole, lesion, lesson, lion, LIONESS, loin, lone, lose, loss, noise, nose, silo, soil, sole

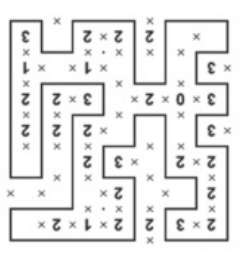
SUDOKU

3	7	6	9	8	2	4	5	1
9	4	1	7	5	3	6	2	8
2	8	5	4	1	6	3	9	7
4	1	3	2	6	5	7	8	9
5	6	8	1	9	7	2	3	4
7	2	9	3	4	8	5	1	6
8	9	2	5	7	4	1	6	3
6	5	7	8	3	1	9	4	2
1	3	4	6	2	9	8	7	5

ALPHA TRIANGLE
R, IR, RIg, GrIn, ReIgn, RegIon, Ignored.

GO FIGURE
5 – 9 + 8 – 3 = 1
Medium
2 × 7 + 3 + 8 = 25
Hard
8 / 2 x 5 + 9 = 29
Easy

LOOP



KAKURO

FAST FIVE

A	R	R	A	Y
T	H	E	B	E
T	I	M	E	S
A	N	O	L	E
R	O	P	E	S

QUOTE UNCODE
A writer is a spectator, looking at everything with a highly critical eye.

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